

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

2/33
#4
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Applicant: Fujiwara et al.

Serial No. 09/901,981

Filed: July 10, 2001

For: DATA REPRODUCING
METHOD AND DEVICE
REPRODUCING DATA
ACCORDING TO A VITERBI
DECODING ALGORITHM
USING AN AVERAGE VALUE
OF A REPRODUCTION SIGNAL

Art Unit: 2133

Examiner: Unassigned

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 23313-1450, on this date.

July 19, 2004

Date

F-CLASS.WCM

Appr. February 20, 1998

Registration No. 29,367

Attorney for Applicant

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JUL 23 2004

Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) within either of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the national application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of first office action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art. A copy of a Japanese Office Action is also enclosed

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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July 19, 2004

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Respectfully submitted,
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By:

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Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Attorney Docket No.: 0941.65686	Serial No.: 09/901,981
	Applicant: Fujiwara et al.	
	Filing Date: July 10, 2001	Group: 2133

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	09-330565	Dec. 22, 1997	Japan			Abs.	
	09-007313	Jan. 10, 1997	Japan			Abs.	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.